

Nationalism in India

Case Study Based Questions

Source 1

Read the source given below and answer the questions that follow by choosing the most appropriate option:

After arriving in India, Mahatma Gandhi successfully organised Satyagraha Movements in various places. In 1916, he travelled to Champaran in Bihar to inspire the peasants to struggle against the oppressive plantation system. Then in 1917, he organised a Satyagraha to support the peasants of the Kheda district of Gujarat. Affected by crop failure and a plague epidemic, the peasants of Kheda could not pay the revenue, and were demanding that revenue collection be relaxed.

Q1. What does Satyagraha emphasise upon?

- a. Force/Power of truth
- b. Strength of violence
- c. Choice of truth
- d. Less is more and save the nature

Q 2. Match the incidents given in Column I with that of Column II. Find the correct option from the codes given below:

Column I (Satyagraha Events)	Column II (Year)
A. Champaran	1. 1919
B. Kheda	2. 1918
C. Ahmedabad	3. 1916
D. Rowlatt Act Satyagraha	4. 1917

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|----|---|---|---|---|----|---|---|---|---|
| | A | B | C | D | | A | B | C | D |
| a. | 1 | 3 | 4 | 2 | b. | 3 | 4 | 2 | 1 |
| c. | 2 | 3 | 4 | 1 | d. | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |

Q3. Which of the following stands true for the movement organised in South Africa by Gandhiji before coming to India?

- a. The movement was supported by almost the entire white people community

- b. The struggle brought independence to South Africa
- c. The struggle was aimed against the racist notions held by whites against the non-whites
- d. Gandhiji received the support of Nelson Mandela in this movement and later the duo went on to push all the white oppressors out of South Africa

Q4. Which of the following is true about Kheda Satyagraha?

- a. It was organised against the cruel landowners who forced peasants to do Begar
- b. Peasants organised this Satyagraha against cotton mill owners
- c. Farm workers organised it against the strict law of Inland Emigration Act
- d. It was organised to request to relax the collection of land revenue due to failure of crops

Q5. Mahatma Gandhi launched Satyagraha in Kheda because:

- a. the peasants of Kheda could not pay tax due to crop failure
- b. the peasants did not want to pay taxes
- c. crop failure and plague epidemic forced the peasants to demand relaxation in revenue
- d. None of the above

Q6. What inspiration was given by Mahatma Gandhi to peasants of Champaran in Bihar?

- a. To struggle against the oppressive plantation system
- b. To accept truth through the use of violence
- c. To fight against injustice
- d. None of the above

Answers

- 1. (a)
- 2. (b)
- 3. (c)
- 4. (d)
- 5. (c)
- 6. (a)

Source 2

Read the source given below and answer the questions that follow:

The movement started with middle-class participation in the cities. Thousands of students left government-controlled schools and colleges, headmasters and teachers resigned and lawyers gave up their legal practices. The council elections were boycotted in most provinces except Madras, where the Justice Party, the party of the Non-Brahmans, felt that entering the council was one way of gaining some power something that usually only Brahmans had access to. The effects of non-cooperation on the economic front were more dramatic. Foreign goods were boycotted, liquor shops picketed and foreign cloth burnt in huge bonfires. The import of foreign cloth halved between 1921 and 1922, its value dropping from 102 crore to 57 crore. In many places, merchants and traders refused to trade in foreign goods or finance foreign trade. As the boycott movement spread and people began discarding imported clothes and wearing only Indian ones, production of Indian textile mills and handlooms went up. (CBSE 2020)

Q1. Explain the role of 'Justice Party' in boycotting of council elections.

Ans. In the context of boycotting of council elections, Justice Party wanted to contest the elections to the council as it was one of the way of gaining some power.

Q2. How was the effects of 'non-cooperation on the economic front' dramatic?

Ans. The effects of 'non-cooperation on the economic front' was dramatic in the following ways:

- (i) Foreign goods were boycotted, liquor shops picketed, and foreign cloth burnt in huge bonfires.
- (ii) The import of foreign cloth halved between 1921 and 1922, its value dropping from 102 crore to 57 crore.

Q3. Explain the effect of 'boycott movement' on 'foreign textile trade.'

Ans. Boycott movement led to a great change in foreign textile trade where merchants and traders refused to trade in foreign goods and Indian textile mills and handlooms went up.

Source 3

Read the source given below and answer the questions that follow:

Mahatma Gandhi's thoughts on Satyagraha

'It is said of "passive resistance" that it is the weapon of the weak, but the power which is the subject of the article can be used only by the strong. This power is not passive

resistance; indeed it calls for intense activity. The movement in South Africa was not passive but active....' Satyagraha is not physical force. A Satyagrahi does not inflict, pain on the adversary; he does not seek his destruction.... In the use of Satyagraha, there is no ill-will whatever.' 'Satyagraha is pure soul-force. Truth is the very substance of the soul. That is why this force is called Satyagraha. The soul is informed with knowledge. In it burns the flame of love... Non- violence is the supreme Dharma ...' 'It is certain that India cannot rival Britain or Europe in force of arms. The British worship the war-god and they can all of them become, as they are becoming, bearers of arms. The hundreds of millions in India can never carry arms. They have made the religion of non-violence their own...' (CBSE 2022 Term-2)

Q1. What type of movement Gandhiji organised in South Africa?

Ans. Gandhiji organised his first campaign of Satyagraha or mass civil disobedience movement in South Africa to fight against injustice and class division.

Q2. Why is Satyagraha considered as pure soul-force?

Ans. In the use of Satyagraha, there is no ill-will. One could win the battle through non-violence and this could be done by appealing to the conscience of the oppressor. Also, the people had to be persuaded to see the truth instead of being forced to accept truth through the soul-force.

Q3. How has Gandhiji described passive resistance?

Ans. Gandhiji described passive resistance as a weapon of the weak and did not exclude the use of physical force or violence for the purpose of gaining one's end. He explained passive resistance as the concept to fight against something evil but never hurting the opponent.

Source 4

Read the source given below and answer the questions that follow:

Nationalism in India

Modern nationalism in Europe came to be associated with the formation of nation-states. It also meant a change in people's understanding of who they were and what defined their identity and sense of belonging. New symbols and icons, new songs and ideas forged new links and redefined the boundaries of communities. In most countries the making of this new national identity was a long process. How did this consciousness



emerge in India? In India and as in many other colonies, the growth of modern nationalism is intimately connected to the anti-colonial movement. People began discovering their unity in the process of their struggle with colonialism. The sense of being oppressed under colonialism provided a shared bond that tied many different groups together. But each class and group felt the effects of colonialism differently, their experiences were varied and their notions of freedom were not always the same. The Congress under Mahatma Gandhi tried to forge these groups together within one movement. But the unity did not emerge without conflict. (CBSE 2022 Term-2)

Q1. What was people's understanding of nation?

Ans. People understood the nation as a community of people formed on the basis of a combination of shared features such as language, history, ethnicity, culture and/or territory. Thus, a nation refers to the collective identity of a group of people understood as defined by those features.

Q2. How was the growth of modern nationalism intimately connected to the anti-colonial movement?

Ans. The growth of modern nationalism intimately connected to the anti-colonial movement in the following ways:

- (i) Colonisation affected people's freedom.
- (ii) The sense of oppression and exploitation become a common bond for people of different groups that resulted in the growth of nationalist ideals.
- (iii) People began discovering their unity in the process of their struggle with colonialism.

Q3. How did people in India develop a sense of collective belonging? Explain.

Ans. People in India developed a sense of collective belonging in the following ways:

- (i) The creation of the image of Bharat Mata by Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay created a sense of oneness among the people.
- (ii) The creation of the India flag by Gandhiji created the nationalism feel among the citizens.

Source 5

Read the source given below and answer the questions that follow:

It is said of "passive resistance" that it is the weapon of the weak, but the power which is the subject of this article can be used only by the strong. This power is not passive resistance; indeed, it calls for intense activity. The movement in South Africa was not



passive but active ... 'Satyagraha is not physical force. A satyagrahi does not inflict pain on the adversary; he does not seek his destruction... In the use of satyagraha, there is no ill will whatever. 'Satyagraha is pure soul force. Truth is the very substance of the soul. That is why this force is called satyagraha. The soul is informed with knowledge. In it burns the flame of love. ... Non-violence is the supreme dharma ...' It is certain that India cannot rival Britain or Europe in force of arms. The British worship the war god and they can all of them become, as they are becoming, bearers of arms. The hundreds of millions in India can never carry arms. They have made the religion of non-violence their own... In his famous book Hind Swaraj (1909) Mahatma Gandhi declared that British rule was established in India, with the cooperation of Indians, and had survived only because of this cooperation. If Indians refused to cooperate, British rule will collapse within a year. (CBSE SQP 2023-24)

Q1. Gandhiji said, "passive resistance is not the weapon of the weak". Why?

Ans. Gandhiji said "passive resistance is not the weapon of the weak because it calls for intense activity with a lot of inner strength.

Q2. "Satyagraha is pure soul-force" substantiate this statement in 20 words.

Ans. Truth is the very substance of the soul. That is why this force is called Satyagraha. The soul is informed with knowledge.

Q3. What according to Mahatma Gandhi is the best weapon to use to collapse British rule in India?

Ans. In his famous book Hind Swaraj, Mahatma Gandhi declared that British rule was established in India with the cooperations of Indians and had survived only because of his cooperation.